

Appl. No. 10/050,246  
Amdt dated Jan 15, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of Nov 18, 2003

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

#### **Amendments to the Claims**

Claims 1-8, 13, 15, 19, 23-24 and 27-36 have been allowed by the Examiner. Applicants have amended claim 35 to be dependent on claim 27 instead of claim 34. The amendment only changed the dependency of the claim to correct for typographical error. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 35 is still patentable over the cited art.

As for newly added claims 37-56, the Examiner states that these claims are directed to an independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. In response, Applicants have withdrawn these claims from consideration without prejudice.

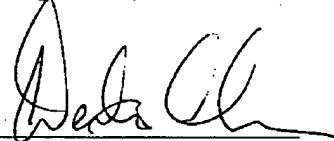
#### **Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned attorney at his number set out below.

Date: Jan 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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